CTS-HK-AA325a1
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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ARMY review(s) completed.

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INFORMATION

4-6-71

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

State Dept. review completed

SUBJECT: Actions on Cambodia (Signed) HK

MORI C03319248 Pgs 1-2, 4-11 = T

The following is a report on actions taken or under way on Cambodia from March 23 through 12 midnight March 29.

OSD review completed

Military Operations.

--Ground. Activity in Cambodia was up during the period. During the night of 24 March, an attack with 122 mm rockets occurred near Pochentong Airport, with light casualties reported. FANK forces engaged in an operation to open an enemy controlled segment of Route 4 in the vicinity of Pich Nil Pass have reported several contacts in their advance to a point about four miles NE of the Pass. ARVN forces engaged in OPERATION TOAN THANG 01/71 reported two significant engagements in the vicinity of Route 7 south of the Chup Plantation which resulted in 287 enemy troops killed and light ARVN casualties.

--Air.

| | U.S. | AVNK | VNAF | RTAF |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B-52 | 21 | - | - | - |
| TACAIR | 390 | 73 | 183 | 2 |
| Reconnaissance | 93 | - | 41 | - |

Third Country Military Forces in Cambodia

25X1

RVNAF 17,297 men

--Training. 8,238 Cambodians are now training in RVN [redacted] 696 Cambodian personnel completed training during the report[redacted] period. 25X1

25X1

--Military Assistance. The value of equipment deliveries during week ending 27 March was higher than preceding week, $3.9 million compared with $2.8 million. Material delivered follows:

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| | U. S. Source | Third Country | Captured |
|---|---|---|---|
| Recovery Vehicle | 1 | - | - |
| Small Arms | 21,829 | - | - |
| Small Arms Ammo (rounds) | 15,466,506 | - | - |
| Crew Served Weapons | 101 | - | - |
| Crew Served Ammo (rounds) | 30,613 | - | - |

--Internal Politics. State reports that speculation and rumors of possible coups declined noticeably during the week, as did apprehension of possible terrorist activity in Phnom Penh. Chief of State Cheng Heng told Ambassador Swank that in the main he, like Sirik Matak, attributes the rumors to subversive elements, but that price increases, lack of movement toward establishing republican institutions, corruption, and Lon Nol's absence are all contributing factors. Some other Embassy contacts would reverse the order, attaching more importance to the problem of government activity and corruption. The Embassy has analyzed the pressures for change in the GKR at some length, pointing out that Lon Nol's absence has stimulated the recent resurgence of these pressures. Although the pressures can be resisted in the short term, they must be faced in the long term and it would be sensible for GKR leaders to act to relieve them. Of the various possible actions, accelerated movement toward adopting a new constitution and toward other reforms would probably be the most feasible. 25X1


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Winston Lord

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

31 MAR 1971

In reply refer to:
I-35338/71

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
ATTN: MR. HERBERT LEVIN

SUBJECT: Weekly Report - Cambodia

Attached is the subject report requested in your August 15, 1970 memorandum.

J. Edwards Warren

Enclosure:
Report

cc: SecDef
DepSecDef
C/JCS
ASD(PA)

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# REPORT ON CAMBODIA, WEEK ENDING 29 MARCH 1971

## MILITARY OPERATIONS

Ground. Overall activity level in Cambodia was generally up during the period. On 24 March a Mekong River supply convoy consisting of two merchant ships, three tugs, three POL barges and two ammunition barges, arrived in Phnom Penh without incident. During the night of 24 March, an attack with 122mm rockets occurred near Pochentong Airport, with light casualties reported. FANK forces engaged in an operation to open an enemy controlled segment of Route 4 in the vicinity of Pich Nil Pass have reported several contacts in their advance to a point about four miles NE of the Pass. ARVN forces engaged in OPERATION TOAN THANG 01/71 reported two significant engagements in the vicinity of Route 7 south of the Chup Plantation which resulted in 287 enemy troops killed and light ARVN casualties.

25X1

Air.

| | U.S. | AVNK[a/] | VNAF |
|---|---|---|---|
| B-52 | 21 | - | - |
| TACAIR | 390 | 73 | 183 |
| Reconnaissance | 93 | - | 41 |

## THIRD COUNTRY SUPPORT

Forces Involved In-Country

25X1

| | |
|---|---|
| RVNAF | 17,297 men |

Training. A total of 8,238 Cambodians are now training in RVN and 25X1 A total of 696 Cambodian personnel completed courses of training during the reporting period.

MILITARY ASSISTANCE. The value of equipment deliveries during week ending 27 March was higher than preceding week, $3.9 million compared with $2.8 million last week. Material delivered follows:

| | U.S. Source | Third Country | Captured |
|---|---|---|---|
| Recovery Vehicle | 1 | - | - |
| Small Arms | 21,829 | - | - |
| Small Arms Ammo (rounds) | 15,466,506 | - | - |
| Crew Served Weapons | 101 | - | - |
| Crew Served Ammo (rounds) | 30,613 | - | - |

a/ AVNK is the abbreviation for the Cambodian Air Force

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

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31 MAR 1971

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(Signed) G. Warren Nutter

Enclosure:
Report

cc: SecDef
DepSecDef
C/JCS
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Weekly Report on Cambodia No. 32

Third Country Assistance to Cambodia

1. Australian Training/Advisory Role. Australian sources have told us that the idea of placing Australian advisors in Cambodia has run into political difficulties in Australia. We are discussing with Embassy Canberra how we might raise the idea again with Mr. Gorton during his forthcoming visit to Washington. Meanwhile, the GOA is continuing to work on proposals for additional Australian training of Cambodian officers, perhaps by on-the-job training with Australian units. Consideration of these latter possibilities has been delayed by the change of government, but the prospects for a favorable decision seem good.

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Political and Diplomatic Developments

1. Internal Politics. Speculations and rumors of possible coups declined noticeably during the week, as did apprehension of possible terrorist activity in Phnom Penh. Chief of State Cheng Heng told Ambassador Swank that in the main he, like Sirik Matak, attributes the rumors to subversive elements, but that price

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increases, lack of movement toward establishing republican institutions, corruption, and Lon Nol's absence are all contributing factors. Some other Embassy contacts would reverse the order, attaching more importance to the problem of government activity and corruption. The Embassy has analyzed the pressures for change in the GKR at some length, pointing out that Lon Nol's absence has stimulated the recent resurgence of these pressures. Although the pressures can be resisted in the short term, they must be faced in the long term and it would be sensible for GKR leaders to act to relieve them. Of the various possible actions, accelerated movement toward adopting a new constitution and toward other reforms would probably be the most feasible.

2. Trials. The GKR has announced that Sihanouk's son and daughter, Prince Norodom Naradipo and Princess Norodom Botum Bopha, will be tried March 31 for "treason through intelligence with the enemy." The two have been detained since late 1970, when they came under suspicion of connections with terrorist and pro-Sihanouk propaganda groups in Phnom Penh. There is, however, a possibility the GKR may approve a proposal to allow Sihanouk's mother, Queen Sisowath Kossamak, to leave the country. Previously she had been turned down, both because the GKR feared she might be exploited in exile by pro-Sihanouk factions and because her presence in Phnom Penh was thought to offer some protection against indiscriminate VC/NVA rocket or mortar attacks.

A military tribunal March 29 sentenced Col. Cheng Sayomboan, former commander of Military Region IV, to death for abandoning his troops in the face of the enemy last April when the VC/NVA overran his area. The trial had opened several months ago and had been adjourned for technical reasons. It seems likely that Colonel Cheng had influential friends, and that the death sentence, whether or not it is actually carried out, may be intended in part as a warning to other incompetent or corrupt commanders that even good political connections may not save them from punishment.



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3. Lon Nol's Health. After further explanations by his doctors, Lon Nol has reaffirmed his decision to re-enter Tripler Hospital, on April 4, for an arteriogram and, if indicated, precautionary surgery to reduce the chances of a recurrence of his stroke. If all goes well, he should be able to return to Cambodia in the latter half of April.

4. GKR Budget. The GKR cabinet has approved a calendar 1971 budget which comes down on the side of austerity and could represent an important step toward getting the economy under control. It projects military expenditures of 11.5 billion riels (U.S. $207 million at the legal exchange rate; half that at the black-market rate) and total expenditures of 18.7 billion ($337 million) against total revenues of 12.7 billion ($229 million) of which U.S. aid counterpart funds would provide 5.8 billion ($104 million). The major strong points are compression of military materiel expenditures, significant proposed tax increases, and limitation of civilian expenditures to the prewar level. The major problem will be to ensure compliance, notably by the military.

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For Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary



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